

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 05781 022030Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /092 W
-----050331 030204Z /65

R 021847Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1238
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 5781

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SP, SS
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN PRESS DISCUSSES SPANISH POSITION ON SAHARA QUESTION

REF: (A) ALGIERS 1923, (B) MADRID 5318

1. THE "IMPORTANT (SPANISH) MINISTER" CITED REFTTEL PARA
2.C WAS FONMIN OREJA, WHO MET AT LUNCH WITH REPORTERS
JULY 26 BEFORE GOING TO BRUSSELS TO PRESENT THE SPANISH
REQUEST FOR ADHESION TO THE EC. THE AFP VERSION OF HIS
REMARKS ON THE SAHARA AGREES CLOSELY WITH THE MOST EXTENSIVE
ACCOUNT PUBLISHED HERE.

2. REGARDING AFP'S OTHER POINTS:

-- WE HAVE NOTED NO PARTICULAR INCREASE IN DISCUSSION
OF THE SAHARA QUESTION HERE SINCE THE ELECTIONS. THE
MATTER WAS OFTEN IN THE NEWS EVEN BEFORE THE ELECTIONS,
AND COVERAGE, AT LEAST IN SOME PAPERS, ROUTINELY NOTED
THE IMPERFECTIONS IN THE SPANISH WITHDRAWAL PROCESS.

-- WHILE THE GREEN MARCH CLEARLY CAUGHT SPAIN AT
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AT BAD TIME, THE JUDGMENT THAT THE WITHDRAWAL
"WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED IF FRANCO HAD BEEN IN
POSSESSION OF HIS FACULTIES" IS OVERDRAWN.

3. AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (REF B), AT LEAST ONE WELL-
PLACED FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS ANTICIPATED THAT THE SUB-
STANTIAL PRO-POLISARIO SENTIMENT AMONG SPAIN'S NEW

PARLIAMENTARIANS COULD SHIFT SPAIN TOWARD A MORE NEUTRAL
OR BALANCED STANCE. HE ALSO INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE
GOS WOULD REMAIN MINDFUL OF MOROCCAN CONCERNS. STABLER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 02-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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